

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

Crop Weather Milk Production Quarterly Farm Labor Cattle on Feed
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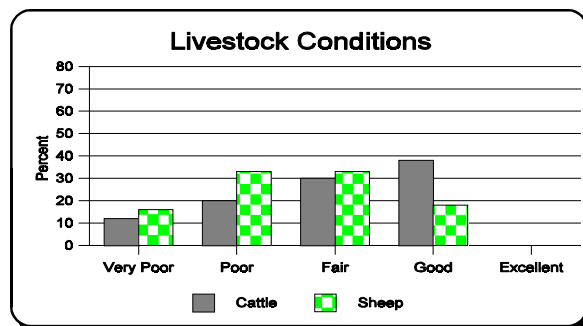
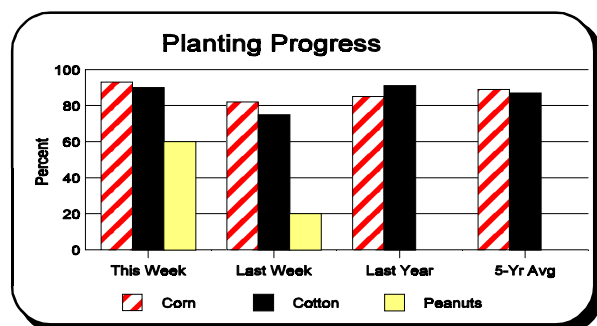
CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 21, 2000

NEW MEXICO: There were 6.9 days suitable for field work. Hot, dry winds persisted during the week making it difficult for starting crops. Very little dryland crops have been planted due to lack of moisture. Fruit crops in the northern areas have been damaged by late freezes. Planting and irrigating were the main farm activities during the week. Onion harvest started in the Mesilla Valley with the crop in mostly good to excellent condition. Chile is also in mostly good to excellent condition. The irrigated wheat crop remained in fair to good condition, while the dryland wheat moved more into the very poor range. Wheat was 94% headed. Alfalfa was in mostly fair to good condition. The 2nd cutting commenced in southern areas. Planting of both corn and cotton is nearing completion and peanuts are 60% planted. Ranchers were busy branding calves, culling cattle, hauling water and supplemental feeding to maintain the herds. Cattle and sheep conditions were basically unchanged from the previous week.

CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
PLANTED	Corn	93	82	85	89
	Cotton	90	75	91	87
	Peanuts	60	20	1/	1/
	Sorghum (Total)	6	1	7	14
	Wheat (Total)	94	87	94	91
HEADED HARVESTED	Lettuce	90	85	76	80
	Onions	6	0	4	2

^{1/} Not Available.

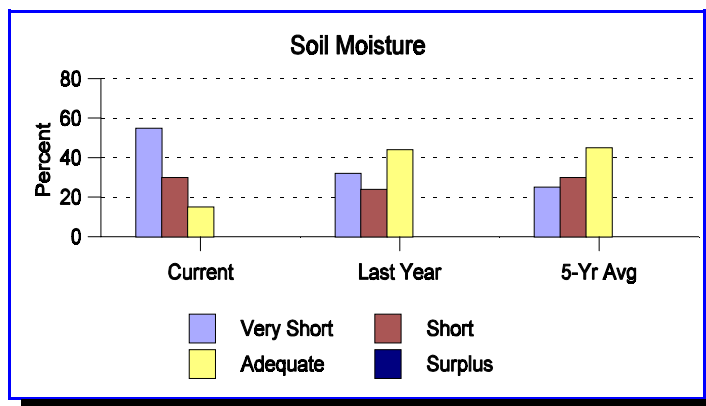


CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	--	3	24	44	29
Apples	--	--	100	--	--
Chile	--	2	16	67	15
Corn	--	--	36	56	8
Cotton	--	--	25	55	20
Lettuce	--	--	10	36	54
Onions	--	--	17	50	33
Pecans	--	--	19	61	20
Wheat (Total)	38	18	27	17	--
Cattle	12	20	30	38	--
Sheep	16	33	33	18	--

SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	35	53	12	---
Northeast	46	47	7	---
Southwest	72	13	15	---
Southeast	70	10	20	---
State	55	30	15	---
State-Last Year	32	24	44	---
State-5-Yr Avg.	25	30	45	---



WEATHER SUMMARY

Contrasting weather was noted across the state during the week. Most southern areas were very hot early in the period with afternoon highs topping 100 degrees. Readings cooled at mid-week but southern locations still averaged 2 to 3 degrees above normal. Areas of the north and northeast were considerable cooler than southern areas of the state. Some overnight freezing temperatures were recorded in the far northeast and some western mountain locations. Overall the northern one-third of the state reported average temperatures 3 to 4 degrees below normal. Precipitation was sparse and limited to northern mountain locations.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS MAY 15-21, 2000

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	05/15 05/21	05/01 05/21	Normal May	01/01 05/21	Normal Jan-May
Carlsbad	77.9	105	50	0.08	0.08	1.16	0.39	2.65
Hobbs	73.0	102	48	0.00	0.00	2.00	1.65	4.23
Roswell	75.1	102	50	0.00	0.00	1.04	0.83	2.64
Clayton	65.1	91	36	T	0.06	1.99	2.04	4.03
Clovis	69.8	97	42	0.00	0.00	1.87	2.08	4.17
Roy	---	---	---	T	0.00	1.84	2.40	3.98
Tucumcari	70.8	100	42	0.00	0.03	1.49	2.19	3.49
Chama	48.4	81	24	0.11	0.34	1.11	6.75	7.72
Johnson Ranch	54.0	82	27	T	0.00	0.62	3.97	3.09
Capulin	47.2	80	26	T	0.09	2.30	4.05	5.16
Las Vegas	58.6	86	33	0.04	0.04	1.68	1.76	3.84
Los Alamos	NA	NA	NA	0.00	0.00	1.17	2.17	5.05
Raton	53.6	85	30	0.21	0.33	2.27	3.73	5.17
Santa Fe	58.1	87	31	T	0.04	1.22	1.48	4.09
Red River	45.4	69	25	0.26	0.43	1.77	8.47	7.52
Farmington	60.3	85	35	T	0.00	0.67	2.99	3.15
Gallup	55.8	86	29	0.10	0.10	0.51	2.43	3.74
Grants	56.6	86	27	0.00	0.00	0.53	2.24	2.48
Silver City	63.6	91	38	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.53	4.20
Quemado	55.0	82	26	0.00	0.00	0.43	2.66	2.49
Albuquerque	66.3	88	46	0.00	0.00	0.50	1.87	2.46
Carrizozo	67.4	93	41	0.00	0.00	0.62	1.46	2.72
Gran Quivera	64.7	90	42	0.00	0.00	0.82	1.90	3.70
Moriarty	59.4	91	33	0.00	0.00	0.97	2.27	3.07
Ruidoso	59.1	87	34	0.00	0.15	0.87	1.25	5.11
Socorro	67.4	94	44	0.00	0.00	0.52	2.19	1.93
Alamogordo	72.6	99	52	0.00	0.00	0.45	0.63	2.38
Animas	71.9	98	44	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.46	2.04
Deming	69.9	100	42	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.79	1.73
T or C	72.2	97	50	0.00	0.00	0.49	1.51	1.89
Las Cruces	71.6	102	47	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.21	1.55

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

MILK PRODUCTION

NEW MEXICO: Milk production in New Mexico during April totaled 442 million pounds, up 10 percent from production in April 1999. The average number of milk cows, at 241,000 head, was up 10,000 head from last April. Milk production per cow averaged 1,835 pounds per cow, compared to 1,890 pounds per cow in March and 1,740 pounds per cow one year earlier. New Mexico continued to rank 10th nationally in total milk production.

UNITED STATES: Milk production in the 20 major States during April totaled 12.4 billion pounds, up 3.7 percent from production in these same States in April 1999. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,598 pounds for April, 44 pounds above April 1999. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.79 million head, 66,000 head more than April 1999 and 12,000 head more than March 2000.

Milk Cows and Production: March 2000^{1/} and April 1999-2000

State	Milk Cows ^{2/}			Milk per Cow ^{3/}			Milk Production ^{3/}		
	4/99	3/00	4/00	4/99	3/00	4/00	4/99	3/00	4/00
	-----1,000 Head-----			-----Pounds-----			-----Million Pounds-----		
AZ	132	137	138	2,075	2,115	2,080	274	290	287
CA	1,456	1,501	1,507	1,770	1,825	1,815	2,577	2,739	2,735
FL	160	157	158	1,435	1,530	1,455	230	240	230
ID	312	334	337	1,640	1,720	1,700	512	574	573
IL	124	120	120	1,430	1,580	1,520	177	190	182
IN	136	143	146	1,360	1,490	1,440	185	213	210
IA	218	215	215	1,500	1,610	1,560	327	346	335
KY	134	132	133	1,110	1,210	1,220	149	160	162
MI	299	292	291	1,530	1,630	1,570	457	476	457
MN	545	540	540	1,505	1,585	1,530	820	856	826
MO	160	156	157	1,290	1,350	1,330	206	211	209
NM	231	240	241	1,740	1,890	1,835	402	454	442
NY	700	698	696	1,460	1,495	1,480	1,022	1,044	1,030
OH	260	261	262	1,420	1,535	1,490	369	401	390
PA	615	618	615	1,545	1,620	1,590	950	1,001	978
TX	342	350	350	1,545	1,640	1,535	528	574	537
VT	161	160	160	1,420	1,515	1,495	229	242	239
VA	122	120	120	1,320	1,450	1,425	161	174	171
WA	248	246	246	1,870	1,940	1,915	464	477	471
WI	1,365	1,354	1,354	1,435	1,490	1,460	1,959	2,017	1,977
20 STS	7,720	7,774	7,786	1,554	1,631	1,598	11,998	12,679	12,441

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 3/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

QUARTERLY FARM LABOR

There were 1.05 million hired workers (including service workers) on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of April 9-15, 2000, up 2 percent from a year ago. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.12 per hour during the April 2000 survey week, up 29 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$7.58 per hour, up 35 cents from last April. Livestock workers earned \$7.56 per hour compared with \$7.39 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate was up 31 cents from last year. Number of hours worked averaged 40.4 hours for hired workers during the survey week compared with 39.5 hours a year ago.

Workers on Farms, Hours worked Per Week, and Wage Rates for All Hired Workers, Selected Regions and U.S., April 1999-2000^{1/}

	Mountain II ^{2/}		Mountain III ^{3/}		Southern Plains ^{4/}		United States ^{5/}	
	Apr 11-17 1999	Apr 9-15 2000	Apr 11-17 1999	Apr 9-15 2000	Apr 11-17 1999	Apr 9-15 2000	Apr 11-17 1999	Apr 9-15 2000
	-----Thousands-----							
Workers on Farms All Hired Workers	18	22	20	15	51	63	867	830
	-----Hours Per Week-----							
Hours Worked All Hired Workers	41.3	44.5	44.1	50.7	36.1	37.4	39.5	40.4
	-----Dollars Per Hour-----							
Workers By Work Type								
Field	7.51	7.30	6.77	6.71	6.41	6.90	7.23	7.58
Livestock	7.67	7.93	7.58	6.53	6.66	7.48	7.39	7.56
Field & Livestock	7.61	7.51	6.96	6.68	6.51	7.12	7.27	7.58
All Workers	8.06	7.84	7.65	7.30	7.18	7.47	7.83	8.12

^{1/} Excludes agricultural service workers. ^{2/} Mountain Region II consists of CO, NV & UT. ^{3/} Mountain Region III consists of AZ & NM. ^{4/} Southern Plains region consists of OK & TX. ^{5/} Excludes AK.

CATTLE ON FEED

NEW MEXICO: Cattle and calves on feed May 1 for the slaughter market in New Mexico totaled 90,000 head, 3,000 head less than a month earlier but 5,000 more than a year earlier. Placements of cattle and calves on feed during April totaled 16,000 head, 3,000 above March and 1,000 head more than in April 1999. Marketings of fed cattle were 19,000 head in April, a decrease of 3,000 head from marketings in March, and 4,000 less than in April 1999.

UNITED STATES: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.91 million head on May 1, 2000. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.69 million, slightly below 1999 but 6 percent above 1998. Net placements were 1.60 million. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.87 million, 4 percent below 1999 and 1 percent below 1998. Other disappearance totaled 90,000 during April, 13 percent below 1999 and 2 percent below 1998.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots ^{1/}

	Number on Feed			Placed			Marketed			Other Disappearance ^{2/}		
	5/1/99	4/1/00	5/1/00	-----DURING-----								
				4/99	3/00	4/00	4/99	3/00	4/00	4/99	3/00	4/00
	-----1,000 Head-----											
AZ	208	273	276	26	30	34	31	27	28	1	5	3
CA	375	405	405	45	59	56	50	51	49	5	8	7
CO	1,120	1,170	1,180	200	250	185	190	250	170	10	10	5
ID	280	320	315	57	69	49	43	47	43	14	7	11
IA	350	375	370	42	57	40	50	56	44	2	1	1
KS	1,980	2,280	2,230	350	400	370	420	420	390	30	20	30
NE	2,120	2,310	2,240	340	400	320	380	390	380	20	10	10
NM	85	93	90	15	13	16	23	22	19	1	3	0
OK	325	380	360	62	73	70	80	87	88	2	6	2
SD	180	200	180	31	34	16	29	32	33	4	2	3
TX	2,430	2,760	2,660	440	520	445	560	570	530	10	20	15
WA	179	211*	213	33	48*	38	30	41*	35	3	6*	1
Oth	400	405	390	47	58	46	60	63	59	2	5	2
US	10,032	11,182	10,909	1,68	2,011*	1,685	1,946	2,056*	1,868	104	103*	90

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. ^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding. *Revised.